

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 01110 251213Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9916
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C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 1110

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, GW

SUBJECT: POLISH-GERMAN AGREEMENTS

REF: STATE 041795 (NOTAL), BONN 02974, BONN 02953

1. I CALLED ON POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER OLSZOWSKI TODAY AND GAVE HIM THE EXCERPT FROM THE COUNSELOR'S PREPARED REMARKS AT THE KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION (PARAGRAPH 1, BONN 2953). I SAID THAT, WHILE I HAD NO DETAILS, I FELT SURE THE COUNSELOR HAD STRESSED IN HIS PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH PROMIENT GERMAN PERSONALITIES THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO BUNDES RAT APPROVAL OF THE PENSION AGREEMENT.

2. OLSZOWSKI SAID THAT THE POLISH AUTHORITIES HAD ALREADY HEARD "ECHOES" OF THE COUNSELOR'S ACTIVITIES, ALTHOUGH THEY HAD NOT YET RECEIVED THE TEXT I HAD GIVEN HIM. HE ASKED ME TO CONVEY HIS WARM EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE THE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND TO COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT FOR THIS IMPORTANT AND VERY WELCOME SUPPORT.

3. I SAID THAT I HAD READ ABOUT AN INTERVIEW GIVEN BY SAARLAND MINISTER-PRESIDENT ROEDER IN WHICH HE HAD SAID HE WOULD VERY MUCH WELCOME SOME SIGN FROM WARSAW WHICH COULD EVOKE THE BROAD APPROVAL OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE (PARAGRAPH 4, BONN 2974). I SAID I WAS WELL AWARE THAT, THROUGH THEIR
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 01110 251213Z

AMBASSADOR IN BONN, THE POLISH AUTHORITIES WERE IN CLOSE TOUCH

WITH THE FRG GOVERNMENT AND WOULD KNOW WHEN AND HOW TO GIVE SOME SUCH SIGN. I WAS MENTIONING THIS ONLY ON A PURELY PERSONAL BASIS.

4. THE MINISTER SAID THAT THEY HAD INDEED BEEN DISCUSSING WITH THE FRG FOREIGN MINISTER THE DESIRABILITY OF ISSUING A STATEMENT. THEY HAD, IN FACT, GONE OVER THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT, WHICH HE WOULD ISSUE. INITIALLY, IT HAD BEEN PLANNED TO RELEASE THE STATEMENT SOME TIME BEFORE THE BUNDESTAG DEBATE. THEN, THE DATE HAD BEEN SET FOR TWO DAYS BEFORE THE BUNDESTAG DEBATE. IN FACT, THE POLISH PRESS AGENCY (PAP) HAD ISSUED AN ADVISORY THAT SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD BE RELEASED IMMINENTLY. SUBSEQUENTLY, MINISTER GENSCHER HAD ADVISED THEM TO WITHHOLD THE STATEMENT, ON THE BASIS THAT AMMUNITION SHOULD NOT BE WASTED UNTIL THE TARGET WAS CLEARLY IN VIEW. SO THE PAP ADVISORY HAD BEEN CANCELLED. NOW, THE PLAN IS TO ISSUE THE STATEMENT SHORTLY BEFORE THE BUNDESRAT TAKES UP THE PENSION AGREEMENT.

5. I SAID THAT WE, FOR OUR PART, VERY MUCH HOPED THAT, FOLLOWING THE BUNDESTAG VOTE, THE BUNDESRAT WOULD ACT POSITIVELY. OLSZOWSKI SAID HE FELT STRONGLY THAT, IN VIEW OF THE BUNDESTAG VOTE AND THE NUMBER OF CDU DEFECTIONS (EVEN ONE CSU MEMBER VOTED FOR RATIFICATION, HE SAID, AND FRANZ-JOSEF STRAUSS HAD NOT SHOWN UP FOR THE VOTE), THE CDU/CSU WOULD CONCLUDE THAT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY TOO UNPOPULAR TO TORPEDO THE AGREEMENTS IN THE BUNDESRAT.

6. COMMENT: I WISH TO ADD A STRONG EXPRESSION OF MY GRATIFICATION AT THE LANGUAGE USED BY THE COUNSELOR AT EICHOLZ AND THE REPRESENTATION HE SUBSEQUENTLY MADE TO KOHL.
DAVIES

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